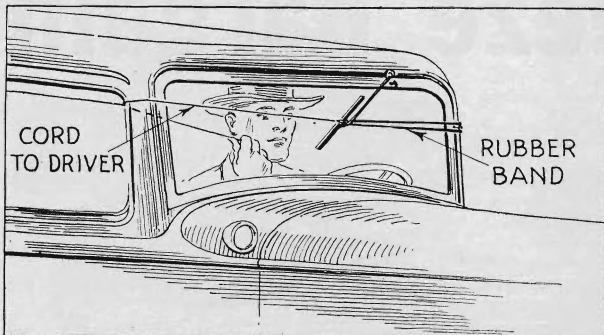


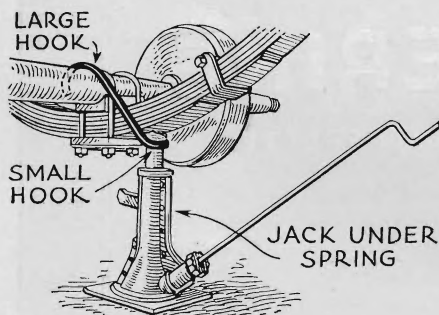
Useful Hints *for* Your Car

Our Readers Describe Simple Ways of Solving Many Common Motor Troubles



Handy Windshield Wiper

IF A storm comes up suddenly and your automatic windshield wiper fails to work, you can operate it temporarily with a piece of string and a rubber band. Simply fasten the elastic and the string to the wiper blade where it joins the moving arm. Then hook the rubber band over the top hinge of the front-left door and lead the string through the partially opened window of the opposite door. Pulling the string will move the wiper to the right while the elastic band will pull it to the left. It can be operated without interfering with driving.—F. J. S.



Holder for the Jack

ALTHOUGH it is often necessary to place a jack under the springs instead of the axle, especially on low-slung cars, they have been known to slip and cause serious injury. You can avoid this by using the simple safety stay rod shown in the illustration. The stay consists of a length of three-eighths-inch iron rod bent to form two hooks, a large one vertically and a smaller one horizontally. In use, the large loop is hooked over the axle while the smaller one grips the neck of the jack. Being linked to the axle, the jack can not slip backwards and drop the car. This small device, insuring safety and protecting your car is decidedly worth while making.—E. T. C., Jr.

Homemade Trouble Light

BY SALVAGING an old flash light and several feet of lamp cord from my scrap heap, I added a trouble

lamp to my car's repair kit. After removing the old batteries, I soldered the lamp cord ends to the two terminals inside the flash-light case and connected midget-battery clips to the two other ends. Then I bought a suction-cup coat hanger (any type of suction cup device will do), removed the rubber cup, and, by means of a rectangular slot cut in the flash-light case and a sixteen penny nail, fastened the cup to the side of the case. Now I can have my trouble light where I want it. All I have to do is snap one

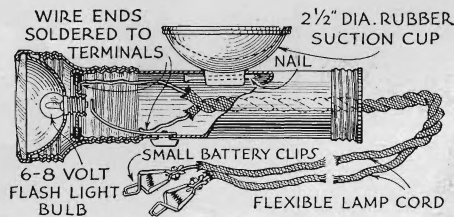
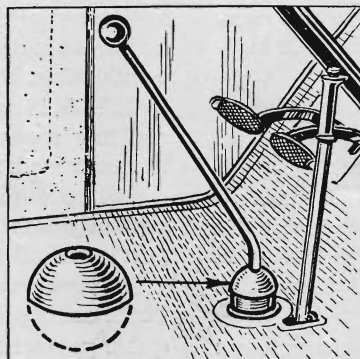


Diagram shows construction of trouble light

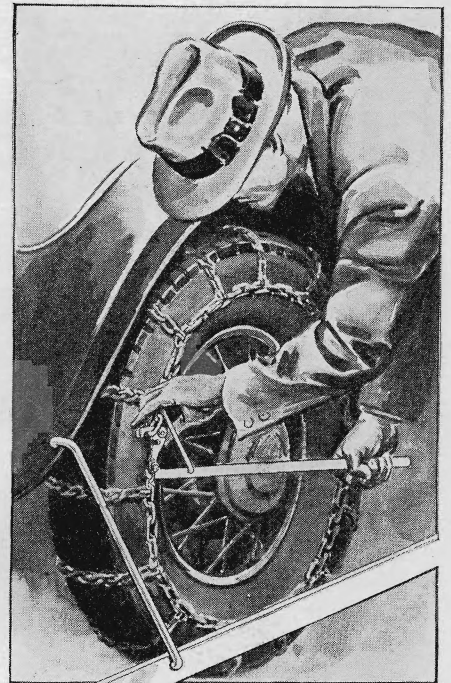
battery clip to the frame of my car and the other to any wire that has battery current in it. To place the light, it is simply a matter of a few seconds to push the suction cup against some smooth surface to make it stick and there I have my light convenient for use on a moment's notice and at a time when it is seriously needed.—W. B. M.

Protects You from Grease

AS A car gets older, the ball joint at the base of the gear shift lever often tends to ooze grease and grime. To protect your shoes and clothing, you can make a grease cover by placing half of a rubber ball over the lever joint. A hole cut in the top of the half ball will allow you to slip it over the shift rod and prevent the escape of grease.—F. M.



Half a rubber ball, with hole cut in it, is put over shift rod above lever joint



Strip of iron, notched at end, and with movable hook, is used to tighten chains

To Fasten Tire Chains

OF ALL cold weather jobs, that of fastening tight the tire chains is probably the most irksome. You can avoid the barked knuckles and numbed fingers usually associated with the task by making the chain fastener illustrated. The tool consists of a narrow strip of iron or steel, notched at one end, and furnished with a movable hook-shaped steel link. The inside border of the chain is fastened first and then the tool, placed as shown, is used to close the outer links. No matter how snug the chain, a slight downward pressure on the handle will draw the ends of the chain together.—K.S.

Handle for Battery

CARRYING automobile batteries is a back straining job unless a handle is used. The amateur mechanic can make a handle from two large washers and a fifteen-inch length of leather strap. Select two washers having one-half-inch diameter holes and, with a hack saw, cut a one-eighth-inch slot across the face of each. These slots will take the looped ends of the strap as shown in the drawing. To use the handle, simply drop a washer over each terminal of the battery and connect the strap. The weight of the battery will make the washers bind on the terminals and provide a vise-like grip.—D. D.

